

Announcement of an effort to restore water quality in Indian Creek in Tazewell County, Virginia

**PUBLIC MEETING LOCATION:** Cedar Bluff Town Hall, 115 Central Ave, in Cedar Bluff, Virginia, on February 22, 2007 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (If Tazewell County public schools are closed due to inclement weather the snow date for the meeting will be March 1, 2007 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.)

**PURPOSE OF NOTICE:** The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Dept. of Mines, Minerals and Energy and the Department of Conservation and Recreation are announcing a study to restore water quality, a public comment opportunity, and public meeting.

**MEETING DESCRIPTION:** First public meeting on a study to restore water quality

**DESCRIPTION OF STUDY:** DEQ is working to identify sources of pollutants affecting the aquatic organisms and sources of bacteria contamination in the waters of Indian Creek. The "impaired" stream segments are estimated to be approximately 8.86 miles of Indian Creek, including the the mainstem of Indian Creek from the confluence with Greasy Creek to its confluence with the Clinch River just east of Cedar Bluff. The stream is impaired for failing to meet the *Aquatic Life Use* based on violations of the general standard for aquatic organisms and failure to meet the *Recreational Use* because of fecal coliform bacteria violations.

During the study, the pollutants impairing the aquatic community will be identified and total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, developed for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. DEQ will also determine the sources of bacteria contamination and develop a TMDL for bacteria. To restore water quality, contamination levels must be reduced to the TMDL amount.

**HOW A DECISION IS MADE:** The development of a TMDL includes public meetings and a public comment period once the study report is drafted. After public comments have been considered and addressed, DEQ will submit the TMDL report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

**HOW TO COMMENT:** DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period, February 22, 2007 to March 24, 2007. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

**TO REVIEW FACT SHEETS:** Fact sheets are available on the impaired waters from the contacts below or on the DEQ web site at [www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl).

**CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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